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Col. Henderson's thrilling final chapter on Jackson as "The Soldier and the Man," his comments on the American generals, the two armies, their discipline, or want of it, and their general characteristics, we must leave without comment to the readers.

These two volumes will delight the soul of many an "old Confed.," although here and there the pages will grow dim and misty. The hours of the night will pass away in reading the fascinating pages, and when they are finished they will be laid aside with feelings akin to those of a little squad of old veterans who, found lying about the statue of Jackson at Richmond the morning after it was unveiled, gave as their reason—"We wanted to sleep with the old man just once more."

HY. KYD DOUGLAS.

*Ulysses S. Grant, his Life and Character.* By HAMLIN GARLAND.  
(New York: Doubleday-McClure Co. 1898. Pp. xix, 524.)

THE content and method of Mr. Garland's book may be succinctly expressed by paraphrasing the title: The character of Ulysses S. Grant as revealed in the story of his life. Mr. Garland has not written a military history of Grant nor a political history of the years of his public career, although the latter field is not preoccupied. His book "is not perhaps everything that is understood by the word biography. . . . It is an attempt at characterization." The treatment is not analytical, but purely narrative. One after another the scenes of Grant's life are passed in chronological order before the mind of the reader like objects before a sensitive plate. At the end a reflecting reader will find in his mind a composite picture of Grant's character more or less distinct.

This method need not be expected to commend itself to all. But some things can be said in its justification. Suffice it to say here that an enterprising writer and some enterprising publishers (of *McClure's Magazine*) have favored the public with an interesting and instructive story, though it be but a variation of a familiar theme.

The material for the period of Grant's public life was superabundant and had to be reduced. For the other periods new matter has been sought in newspaper files and by interviewing old acquaintances. Two-fifths of the space is devoted to the period before his capture of Fort Donelson and of national fame; another two-fifths to the period from 1862 to 1869; and the last one hundred pages to the remaining sixteen years of his life.

Sketched in briefest outline this is the man who is revealed to us in Mr. Garland's pages: Though reticent, he was not a dullard and was proficient in mathematics; he had great managing ability of a certain sort; the team he drove was the best kept and could haul the biggest loads of any in the neighborhood; he was a successful regimental quartermaster in the field with Taylor and Scott. He was cool, clear-headed and quick-witted in the emergencies of battle. His persistence was indomitable; defeats were but the occasions for making more adequate preparations. He made progress in military science; for, though he withdrew

from Mississippi in 1862 because his communications had been cut at Holly Springs, a year later he boldly cast loose from Grand Gulf and took position between Vicksburg and Jackson, living on the country. He could discipline a regiment and he could direct to a remote object huge armies scattered over a vast territory. Grant was not disconcerted when Lee matched his movements day after day in Virginia; Thomas in Tennessee and Sherman in Georgia and North Carolina were embraced in the plan of that campaign as truly as the Army of the Potomac. Grant could judge the capacity of a mule-train or a regiment of soldiers, but he was not so good a judge of the character of individuals. He was gentle and without vindictiveness and, loving the whole Union, was considerate of the defenceless South.

He was conspicuously lacking in business ability. He had not political tact and sagacity; distrustful of politicians, he treated his cabinet much as he would his military staff. More democratic than Jefferson, he held that "the will of the people is the law of the land," not discriminating between the voice of the press and the lessons of an election. If he had not been so artless he would have been a demagogue. If Mr. Garland's opinion (p. vi) that "through all the complications" of his career as President, he "pursued a straightforward course" is taken literally, it is but half the truth. He was personally honest; but his administration was not. If it is meant for praise it proves too much. The man who could be honest and still overlook that "weltering chaos of political knavery and double-dealings" was not a well-rounded character, was not suited to bear the responsibilities of the affairs of state, was not a statesman.

His intemperance is touched off in a few strokes, delicate as bold. It was an appetite which he and his friends contended against and which his enemies exaggerated. But Mr. Garland leaves it to others, if they can and must, to show when and where this weakness led to disastrous public consequences.

The popular reception accorded to Grant after the close of his presidency was as near to an apotheosis as could well be in this age. He was patriotic and sincere and by his military genius had done his country an undying service. For this his countrymen and world honor him, remembering nothing but good of their hero.

FREDERICK W. MOORE.

*Memories of a Rear-Admiral*, who has served for more than Half a Century in the Navy of the United States. By S. R. FRANKLIN, Rear-Admiral U. S. Navy (Retired). (New York: Harper and Brothers. 1898. Pp. xv, 398.)

ADMIRAL FRANKLIN in his *Memories of a Rear-Admiral* has given the reading world a very entertaining book. Sprung from a family of colonial and Revolutionary stock, and of note both in civil and military affairs, the admiral entered the navy as a midshipman in 1841, then being in his six-